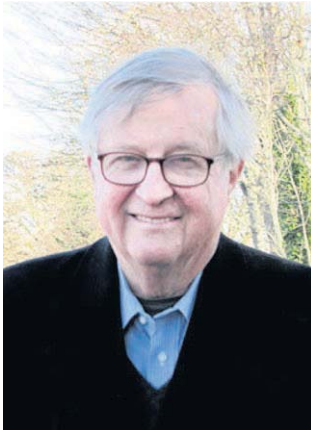


Oregon's poet laureate visits Astoria

Peter Sears to lead free poetry workshop at Astoria library

ASTORIA — Oregon's poet laureate, Peter Sears, will lead a poetry workshop at Astoria Public Library at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec 5. Space is limited; early registration is encouraged.

Sears was named to a two-year appointment as Oregon's seventh poet laureate by Gov. John Kitzhaber on April 25, 2014. Sears has taught creative writing at Reed College, Bard College and Pacific University and is the founder of the Oregon Literary Coalition and co-founder of Friends of William Stafford and Cloudbank Books. He is a widely published poet, with four collections: "Tour" (2002), "The Brink" (2004), "Green Driver" (2006), and "Small Talk, New and Selected Poems" (2014). His poems have appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers, including The New York Times, The Atlantic



Submitted photo
Oregon Poet Laureate Peter Sears will lead a poetry workshop Dec. 5 in Astoria.

and Rolling Stone.

Sears has received several awards, including the Gibbs-Smith poetry prize and the Western States Book Award for Poetry for his second full-length collection "The Brink." This collection of poems was

also named one of Oregon's 150 best books by the Oregon State Library in 2009. Sears is the author of two supplementary teaching texts, "Secret Writing" and "I'm Gonna Bake Me a Rainbow Poem." He has dedicated himself to teaching and leading poetry workshops in public schools, libraries, colleges, community centers and literary festivals throughout the state.

For more information about this free event and to register, contact Ami Kreider at 503-325-7323 or akreider@astoria.or.us. The Astoria Public Library is located at 450 10th St.

The poet laureate position is a collaborative project of the state's five statewide cultural partners, Oregon Arts Commission, Oregon Heritage Commission, Oregon Historical Society, Oregon Humanities and State Historic Preservation Office. The position is funded by the Oregon Cultural Trust and managed by Oregon Humanities. More information on the poet laureate program and history is found at www.oregonpoetlaureate.org

AAUW holds annual scholarship benefit

Enjoy desserts, 'Visiting Mr. Green' play at Performing Arts Center

ASTORIA — The American Association of University Women is changing its venue this year for its annual scholarship benefit.

In order to accommodate a larger audience, the organization will hold its event at the Clatsop Community College Performing Arts Center, located on the corner of 16th Street and Franklin Avenue. The fundraiser will take place at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 13 and 14. Tickets are \$15 and include desserts at intermission.

This AAUW scholarship benefit will present an auction and theatrical entertainment. On stage this year, enjoy "Visiting Mr. Green," a play by Jeff Baron.

When Mr. Green, an 86-year-old retired dry cleaner, wanders into New York traffic, he's almost hit by a car driven by 29-year-old corporate executive Ross Gardiner. Found guilty of reckless driving, the young man is ordered to complete community service and help the recent widower once a week for six months.



Submitted photo
Bill Honl, left, and Bill Ham will perform in "Visiting Mr. Green" Nov. 13 and 14 at the CCC Performing Arts Center in Astoria.

What starts as a comedy about two men who do not want to be in the same room together becomes a gripping, moving drama as they get to know each other and open old wounds they've been hiding and nursing for years.

Since its 1997 year-long run in New York, "Visiting Mr. Green" has become a hit worldwide, with about 500 productions in 23 languages in 46 countries. The play was nominated for an ACE award (Buenos Aires), a Molière (Paris) and a Drama League Award (New York). It also won Best Play awards in Greece, Mexico, Israel, Uruguay, Turkey and Germany.

The same week AAUW presents its show, "Visiting Mr. Green" will also premiere in Rome, Italy; Dublin, Ireland; and in The Netherlands, according to the playwright. It will also be seen in November in Israel, Brazil, Kazakhstan, the Czech Republic and Romania.

Sheila Shaffer, a familiar face at the Coaster Theatre in Cannon Beach, is directing

'Visiting Mr. Green'

7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 13 and 14

CCC Performing Arts Center

588 16th St., at Franklin Avenue, Astoria

503-325-7969

\$15

Baron's play. Bill Honl and Bill Ham, recently seen in shows at the Coaster Theatre and at the Liberty Theater, are acting in this touching piece about trust and loneliness.

Tickets are available at 3 Cups Coffee House, Blue Scorchers Bakery, and the Rusty Cup in Astoria. They can also be purchased at the CCC Performing Arts Center door on performance evenings, from any Astoria AAUW member, or by calling Sara Meyer at 503-325-7969.

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